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Docket No.: USFMCR.66C3DV1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Fufang Zha et al.
Serial No: 10/759,560
Confirmation No: 8107
Filed: January 15, 2004
For: SCOURING METHOD

Examiner: Sorkin, David L.
Art Unit: 1723

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 27th day of March, 2006.

Nancy Kelly

Nancy Kelly

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 and references cited
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 395-7000.

A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed to cover the IDS filing fee. If the fee is insufficient, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50/2762.

Respectfully submitted,
Fufang Zha et al., Applicants

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Date: March 27, 2006
LLA Docket No.: M2019-701440



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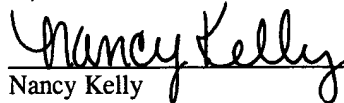
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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed more than three months after the filing date of this application and after the mailing date of the first Office Action, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in this application.

The fee of \$180.00 as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is enclosed.

03/30/2006 WADDELRI 00000043 10759560

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PART II: Information Cited

Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

Applicant would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the following other information, whose relevance is discussed in Part III below:

PART III: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

WO 93/15827 appears to be directed to a hollow yarn membrane module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 63-143905 appears to be directed to a hollow yarn membrane filter. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 06-343837 appears to be directed to a hollow fiber membrane module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 07-024272 appears to be directed to a filtering method. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP S63-38884 appears to be directed to a hollow fiber module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 07-185268 appears to be directed to a hollow fiber filter membrane element and module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 62-250908 appears to be directed to a hollow yarn type filter. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 04-265128 appears to be directed to membrane separation equipment. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 07-185271 appears to be directed to immersion membrane apparatus. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 04-250898 appears to be directed to a batch-wise waste water treating device. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 06-285496 appears to be directed to a hollow fiber membrane separation biological treatment and device for organic drainage. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 06-285348 appears to be directed to a vertical type follow fiber membrane module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 05-096136 appears to be directed to a hollow-fiber membrane module and using method therefor. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 06-218237 appears to be directed to a dipping type filtering device. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 07-155758 appears to be directed to a waste water treating device. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 09-220569 appears to be directed to a solid-liquid separator. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 11-165200 appears to be directed to a method for treating sludge. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 61-192309 appears to be directed to a hollow yarn type module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 07-275665 appears to be directed to a hollow yarn membrane module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 08-010585 appears to be directed to a condensation device using hollow yarn membrane. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 09-141063 appears to be directed to a hollow fiber membrane module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 07-289860 appears to be directed to a cleaning method of hollow fiber membrane module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 07-136471 appears to be directed to a hollow yarn membrane module. An English Abstract is enclosed.

JP 61-291007 appears to be directed to a hollow yarn type separation membrane element. An English Abstract is enclosed.

The following are remarks concerning the other information cited:

PART IV: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

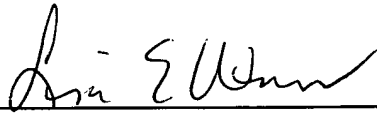
An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Serial No.: 10/759,560

- 5 -

Art Unit: 1723

Respectfully submitted,
Fufang Zha et al., Applicants

By: _____

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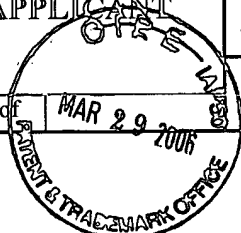
Tel. (617) 395-7000

Siemens Docket No.: 2004P87077US

LLA Docket No.: M2019-701440

Date: March 21, 2006

FORM PTO-1449/A and B (Modified)		APPLICATION NO.: 10/759,560	ATTY. DOCKET NO.: USFMCR.66C3DV1
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		FILING DATE: January 15, 2004	CONFIRMATION NO.: 1723
		APPLICANT: Fufang Zha et al.	
Sheet		GROUP ART UNIT: 1723	EXAMINER: Sorkin, David L.



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		
		*4,647,377		Miura	03-03-1987
		*4,876,006		Ohkubo et al.	10-24-1989
		*5,151,191		Sunaoka et al.	09-29-1992
		*5,192,456		Ishida et al.	03-09-1993
		*5,209,852		Sunaoka et al.	05-11-1993
		*5,248,424		Cote et al.	09-28-1993
		*5,403,479		Smith et al.	04-04-1995
		*5,480,553		Yamamori et al.	01-02-1996
		*5,607,593		Cote et al.	03-04-1997
		*5,639,373		Mahendran et al.	06-17-1997
		*5,643,455		Kopp et al.	07-01-1997
		*5,783,083		Henshaw et al.	07-21-1998
		*5,910,250		Mahendran et al.	06-08-1999
		*5,944,997		Pedersen et al.	08-31-1999
		*5,958,243		Lawrence et al.	09-28-1999
		*6,045,698		Cote et al.	04-04-2000
		*6,156,200		Zha et al.	12-05-2000
		*6,193,890		Pedersen et al.	02-27-2001
		*6,214,231		Cote et al.	04-10-2001
		*6,284,135		Ookata	09-04-2001
		*6,325,928		Pedersen et al.	12-04-2001
		*6,375,848		Cote et al.	04-23-2002
		*6,893,568		Janson et al.	05-17-2005

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/Country	Number	Kind Code			
		WO	93/15827		Yamamori	08-19-1993	Abstract
		WO	93/02779		Memtec Limited	02-18-1993	
		JP	63-143905		Toshiba Corp.	06-16-1988	Abstract
		JP	06-343837		Ebara Infilco Co. Ltd.	12-20-1994	Abstract
		JP	07-024272		Mitsubishi Rayon Co. Ltd.	01-27-1995	Abstract
		JP	S63-38884		Asahi Chemical Industry Co. Ltd.	07-05-1986	Abstract
		JP	07-185268		Toray Ind. Inc.	07-25-1995	Abstract
		JP	62-250908		Asahi Chemical Industry Co. Ltd.	10-31-1987	Abstract
		JP	04-265128		Ebara Infilco Co. Ltd.	09-21-1992	Abstract
		JP	07-185271		Kurita Water Ind. Ltd.	07-25-1995	Abstract
		JP	04-250898		Yanmar Diesel Engine Co. Ltd.	09-07-1992	Abstract

FORM PTO-1449/A and B (Modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		APPLICATION NO.: 10/759,560		ATTY. DOCKET NO.: USFMCR.66C3DV1	
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		GROUP ART UNIT: 1723		EXAMINER: Sorkin, David L.	
Sheet		of			

		JP	06-285496		Ebara Infilco Co. Ltd.	10-11-1994	Abstract
		JP	05-285348		Nitto Denco Corp.	11-02-1993	Abstract
		JP	05-096136		Toray Ind. Inc.	04-20-1993	Abstract
		JP	06-218237		Kubota Corp.	08-09-1994	Abstract
		JP	07-155758		Mitsubishi Rayon Co. Ltd.	06-20-1995	Abstract
		JP	09-220569		Kubota Corp.	08-26-1997	Abstract
		JP	11-165200		Mitsubishi Rayon Co. Ltd.	06-22-1999	Abstract
		*WO	96/07470	A1	Memtec Limited	03-14-1996	
		*WO	97/06880	A2	Zenon Environmental Inc.	02-27-1997	
		*WO	98/28066	A1	Memtec America Corporation	07-02-1998	
		EP	1 034 835		Biothane Systems International	09-13-2000	
		*EP	0 763 758	A1	Seikoh Giken Co., Ltd.	03-19-1997	
		JP	61-192309		Asahi Chem Ind Co. Ltd.	08-26-1986	Abstract
		JP	07-275665		Mitsubishi Rayon Co. Ltd.	10-24-1995	Abstract
		JP	08-010585		Ishigaki Mech Ind Co.	01-16-1996	Abstract
		JP	09-141063		Mitsubishi Rayon Co. Ltd.	06-03-1997	Abstract
		JP	07-289860		Toray Ind Inc.	11-07-1995	Abstract
		JP	07-136471		Toray Ind Inc.	05-30-1995	Abstract
		JP	61-291007		Toyobo Co. Ltd.	12-20-1986	Abstract
		JP	61-293504		Kurita Water Ind Ltd.	12-24-1986	Abstract

OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)
		KAIYA et al., "Water Purification Using Hollow Fiber Microfiltration Membranes," 6 th World Filtration Congress, Nagoya, 1993, pp. 813-816.	
		UEDA et al., "Effects of Aeration on Suction Pressure in a Submerged Membrane Bioreactor," <i>Wat. Res.</i> Vol. 31, No. 3, 1997, pp. 489-494.	
		LOZIER et al., "Demonstration Testing of ZenoGem and Reverse Osmosis for Indirect Potable Reuse Final Technical Report," published by CH2M Hill, available from the National Technical Information Service, Operations Division, January 2000, entire publication.	
		ZENON, "Proposal for ZeeWeed® Membrane Filtration Equipment System for the City of Westminster, Colorado, Proposal Number 479-99," March 2000, entire publication	
		JOHNSON, "Recent Advances in Microfiltration for Drinking Water Treatment," AWWA Annual Conference, June 20-24, 1999, Chicago, Illinois, entire publication.	
		Supplementary European Search Report; Application No. EP 97 94 7659.	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

*a copy of this reference is not provided either because it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. 10/042,128, filed January 7, 2002 and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications) or because a copy of this reference need not be provided as the reference is a published U.S. Patent or U.S. Patent application and the present application was filed after June 30, 2003.